

You're sacrificing greatly for our country, and our country has needed that sacrifice. By standing for the cause of freedom, you're making the world more peaceful. By fighting terrorists abroad, you're making the American people more secure here at home. And by acting in the best traditions of duty and honor, you're making our country and your Commander in Chief incredibly proud.

May God bless you. And may God continue to bless the United States.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:38 a.m. In his remarks, he referred to Lt. Gen. Lance L. Smith, USAF, deputy commander, and Gen. John P. Abizaid, USA, combatant com-

mander, U.S. Central Command; Gen. Bryan D. "Doug" Brown, USA, commander, U.S. Special Operations Command; Col. Brian T. Kelly, USAF, commander, 6th Operations Group, MacDill Air Force Base; country music entertainers Darryl Worley and Mark Wills; President Hamid Karzai of Afghanistan; President Ghazi al-Ujayl al-Yawr and Prime Minister Ayad Allawi of the Iraqi interim government; senior Al Qaida associate Abu Musab Al Zarqawi and his lieutenant Umar Baziyani, who was captured in Baghdad, Iraq, on May 30; Brig. Gen. Carter F. Ham, USA, commander, Task Force Olympia; and talk radio show host Rush Limbaugh.

Statement on the Report of the Commission on Implementation of United States Space Exploration Policy *June 16, 2004*

I am pleased that Chairman Pete Aldridge and the members of the Commission on Implementation of United States Space Exploration Policy have developed recommendations supporting the vision for America's space program. I appreciate their hard work and service.

The Commission's report makes clear that this vision, which I announced in January, is a sustainable and affordable long-term human and robotic program to explore space. We will explore space to improve our lives and lift our national spirit. Space exploration is also likely to produce scientific discoveries in fields from biology to physics and to advance aerospace and a host of other industries. This will help create more highly skilled jobs, inspire students and teachers in math and science, and ensure that we continue to benefit

from space technology, which has already brought us important improvements in areas as diverse as hurricane forecasting, satellite communications, and medical devices.

The Commission worked diligently to collect ideas from a variety of voices from across the country and to develop innovative recommendations. The Commission's recommendations will be reviewed and considered, and NASA will accelerate the transformation it has begun. I am confident that the Commission's report will help Congress, NASA, other Government agencies, the private sector, the international community, and the American public to work together to undertake the next steps in our journey into space for the benefit of generations to come.

Message to the Congress on Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Weapons-Usable Fissile Material in the Territory of the Russian Federation

June 16, 2004

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice to the *Federal Register* for publication, stating that the emergency declared with respect to the accumulation of a large volume of weapons-usable fissile material in the territory of the Russian Federation is to continue beyond June 21, 2004. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the *Federal Register* on June 12, 2003 (68 *Fed. Reg.* 35149).

It remains a major national security goal of the United States to ensure that fissile material removed from Russian nuclear weapons pursuant to various arms control

and disarmament agreements is dedicated to peaceful uses, subject to transparency measures, and protected from diversion to activities of proliferation concern. The accumulation of a large volume of weapons-usable fissile material in the territory of the Russian Federation continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to the accumulation of a large volume of weapons-usable fissile material in the territory of the Russian Federation and maintain in force these emergency authorities to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,
June 16, 2004.

NOTE: The notice is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Message to the Senate Transmitting the Canada-United States Agreement on Pacific Hake/Whiting

June 16, 2004

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Canada on Pacific Hake/Whiting (the "Agreement"), done at Seattle, November 21, 2003. I am also enclosing, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Secretary of State on the Agreement.

The Agreement establishes, for the first time, agreed percentage shares of the transboundary stock of Pacific hake, also known as Pacific whiting. It also creates a process through which U.S. and Canadian scientists and fisheries managers will recommend the total catch of Pacific hake each year, to be divided by a set percentage formula. Stakeholders from both countries will have significant input into this process.